

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

1. (Currently amended) A device for transporting liquids along predetermined guideways, comprising:

a body;

an opposite body attachable to said body in juxtaposition thereto and having a shape complementary to a corresponding shape of the body, said body being provided with elevations and recesses on a side thereof which faces a confronting surface of said opposite body when attached thereto, surfaces of said elevations and recesses facing said confronting surface being spaced apart therefrom a distance such that said elevations and recesses respectively define, in conjunction with said confronting surface, capillary gaps configured to serve as the predetermined guideways for transporting liquids by capillary forces therealong and recessed regions therebetween which are ~~capillaryly inactive~~ capillary-inactive and having a width of at least 1,000 μm and a depth of at least 1,500 μm , thereby preventing transport of liquids between adjacent ones of said capillary gaps by capillary force; and

at least one liquid supply including at least one liquid-conductive conduit communicative with a corresponding one of said capillary gaps for supplying liquid dosing to said capillary gaps.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said at least one liquid supply includes a discrete liquid supply for each of said capillary gaps which is communicative with said at least one liquid-conductive conduit.

4. (Currently amended) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the body is in a form of a [[plane]] cover plate of generally planar configuration.

5. (Currently amended) A device as claimed in 4, wherein the opposite body is in a form of a [[plane]] support plate of generally planar configuration.

6. (Currently amended) A device as claimed in [[18]] 19, wherein the spacers are components of the support plate.

7. (Previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 19, wherein the spacers are components of the cover plate.

8. (Previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 18, wherein the spacers are arranged in the form of bars spaced apart in a regular pattern.

9. (Previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 18, wherein the spacers are designed as discrete spacer elements sealingly insertable between the body and the opposite body, said spacer elements being given a defined height in dependence on characteristics of the fluid to be directed along a course defined by the capillary gaps.

10. (Previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein the elevations are defined by generally bar-shaped structures.

11. (Previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 5, wherein the cover plate is removably attachable to the support plate in a manner substantially free of tensions in different directions.

12. (Previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, wherein, on the body, a plurality of capillary gaps is provided independently from each other and with an inlet and outlet each.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently amended) A device as claimed in any one of claims 1, 3-[[14]]12, wherein said opposite body is in a form of one of a ~~plane~~, planar and substrate plate provided with recesses.

16. (Currently amended) A device as claimed in any one of claims 1, 3-[[14]]12, wherein said opposite body is in a form of a bio-chip.

17. (Currently amended) A device as claimed in any one of claims 1, 3-[[14]]12, wherein said opposite body is in a form of one of a micro-titer plate and a nano-titer plate.

18. (Previously presented) A device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising spacers for setting the distance at which the surfaces of said elevations and recesses facing said confronting surface are spaced apart.

19. (Currently amended) A device as claimed in claim [[4]] 5, further comprising spacers for setting the distance at which the surfaces of said elevations and recesses facing said confronting surface are spaced apart.